

What is claimed is:

1. A platform-independent method of collateral matching and mark to market reconciliation using a global communications network, comprising:

accessing said global communications network;

5 transmitting financial transaction data, wherein said financial transaction data comprises financial data and user instructional data;

converting said financial transaction data to a standard format;

comparing a first set of financial transaction data with a second set of financial transaction data to determine a collateral match decision;

10 retrieving mark to market parameters for said financial transaction data associated with said collateral match decision;

using said mark to market parameters to calculate a market value for said financial transaction data associated with said matched decision; and

providing useful reports.

15 2. The method of claim 1, wherein said mark to market parameters comprise at least one of the following:

market values associated with a financial transaction; and

user specified decision criteria for valuing said financial transaction; and

user specified decision criteria for reconciling said financial transaction.

20 3. The method of claim 2, wherein said market values associated with said financial transaction comprise real-time, world-wide market values.

4. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

managing said financial transaction data;

auditing said financial transaction data upon submission by a user; and

administering said financial transaction data.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein said converting of said financial transaction data to said standard format comprises:

providing a template for import of said financial transaction data in an
5 electronic medium;

importing said financial transaction data;

creating an import specification for said standard format of each file; and

generating a unique import specification code to monitor said file.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein said converting of said financial transaction data to
10 said standard format comprises:

providing a template for export of said financial transaction data in an
electronic medium;

exporting said financial transaction data;

creating an export specification for said standard format of each file; and

15 generating a unique export specification code to monitor said file.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

processing said financial transaction data using a mark to market processor.

8. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

processing said financial transaction data using a data conversion processor.

20 9. The method of claim 8, wherein said data conversion processor comprises:

managing a data file from said user;

converting said data file to a standard file format;

parsing said data file;

validating said data file;

preferences;

5 reconfiguring import specifications;

creating new import specifications;

reconfiguring export specifications;

creating new export specifications; and

logging errors.

10 10. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

processing said financial transaction data using a reconciliation processor.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein said reconciliation processor comprises:

configuring updated data fields;

using one or more matching algorithms for a set of parties associated with

15 said financial transaction;

prioritizing matching algorithms for said set of parties associated with said

financial transaction; and

using tie-breaker rules when said matching algorithm returns more than one

or more market valuations for said financial transaction data associated with said

20 collateral match decision.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein said useful reports comprise a report of at least one of the following:

said collateral match decision;

said market value;

market values associated with a financial transaction; and

user specified decision criteria for valuing said financial transaction; and

5 user specified decision criteria for reconciling said financial transaction.

17. The system of claim 14, further comprising:

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means for providing a template for export of said financial transaction data
in an electronic medium;

means for exporting said financial transaction data;

means for creating an export specification for said standard format of each

5 file; and

means for generating a unique export specification code to monitor said file.

20. The system of claim 14, further comprising:

means for processing said financial transaction data using a mark to market
processor.

10 21. The system of claim 14, further comprising:

means for processing said financial transaction data using a data conversion
processor.

22. The system of claim 21, wherein said data conversion processor comprises:

means for managing a data file from said user;

15 means for converting said data file to a standard file format;

means for parsing said data file;

means for validating said data file;

means for converting a data field to a standard data field format;

means for inserting a filler data field for empty-fixed data fields;

20 means for mapping a standardized, populated data field according to said
user's preferences;

means for reconfiguring import specifications;

means for creating new import specifications;

means for reconfiguring export specifications;

means for creating new export specifications; and

means for logging errors.

23. The system of claim 14, further comprising:

means for processing said financial transaction data using a reconciliation

5 processor.

24. The system of claim 23, wherein said reconciliation processor comprises:

means for configuring updated data fields;

means for using one or more matching algorithms for a set of parties

associated with said financial transaction;

10 means for prioritizing matching algorithms for said set of parties associated
with said financial transaction; and

means for using tie-breaker rules when said matching algorithm returns
more than one or more market valuations for said financial transaction data
associated with said collateral match decision.

15 25. The system of claim 14, wherein said useful reports comprise a report of at least
one of the following:

said collateral match decision;

said market value;

said real-time world-wide market value;

20 total exposure of said user;

import errors for said user;

said mark to market parameters;

said user specified decision criteria for valuing said financial transaction;

and

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said user specified decision criteria for reconciling said financial
tion.

26. The system of claim 14, further comprising:

means for controlling a communications path for discussing said financial
5 transaction data and one or more associated market valuations among multiple
users.

27. A platform-independent automated collateral matching and mark to market reconciliation method for creating, managing, verifying, and confirming matched financial transactions, comprising:

10 displaying a user module for viewing, selecting, inputting, and transmitting
transaction data from a user to a network collateral matching and reconciliation
system;

receiving said transaction data upon submission by a user;

translating said transaction data upon submission by said user;

15 authenticating said transaction data upon submission by said user;

storing said transaction data upon submission by said user;

associating said transaction data with collateral matching parameters to
determine a matching outcome;

using said transaction data associated with said matching outcome to

20 determine a mark to market valuation; and

transmitting said mark to market valuation to be displayed by said user interface.

28. The method of claim 27, further comprising:

auditing said transaction data upon submission by said user;

means for generating useful reports.

31. A secure, platform-independent automated system for collateral matching and mark to market reconciliation, comprising:

5 a network automated collateral matching and mark to market reconciliation system coupled to at least one communications network having a plurality of users;

an interactive user module coupled with a network management system server connected to said communications network having a plurality of users;

10 a plurality of client terminals coupled to said interactive user module for user interaction with said network automated collateral matching and mark to market reconciliation system.

32. The system of claim 31, wherein said interactive user module comprises an application that is downloaded from a web-page to said network automated collateral matching and mark to market reconciliation system.

15 33. The system of claim 31, wherein said interactive user module is communicated to said network automated collateral matching and mark to market reconciliation system by one of an internet, an intranet, or an extranet.

34. The system of claim 31, wherein said communications network is a financial institution's communications network.

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